



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

10th October 2006

**DSS8 UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE INDUSTRY
SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME
FILE: 146 APV {Folio No. * }**

SUMMARY:

Reporting on a recent award received under the University of Newcastle Industry Scholarship Scheme.

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DESCRIPTION:

As Councillors would be aware Kempsey council is involved in the University of Newcastle Industry Scholarship Scheme (UNISS).

UNISS aims at developing a full range of professional engineering skills, both academic and professional through a three-way partnership between the University, Council and the scholars.

Council currently has 3 cadets involved in the scheme being Richard Officer (3rd year), Karen McKenzie (2nd year) and James Farquarhson (1st year).

At the Sponsor and Scholar Dinner held on 22nd September 2006, Karen McKenzie was presented with an Achievement Award under the University Foundation Award 2006. The Award recognises the outstanding work undertaken during Karen's Industry Placement with Council during the holiday period between December 2005 and February 2006. The contribution made by Council's Design Engineer, Jeff Moore, in supervising and facilitating the work experience should also be recognised.

Following the completion of the third year of studies in November, during 2007 Richard Officer will be on a full year industry placement with council.

Council has recently advertised for applications from school students across the Macleay Valley to submit applications for scholarships in 2007 under the UNISS program. This would bring to four the number of scholars sponsored by council.

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REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

Nil

- *Social*

Benefits to both students and the community arise from local students being able to return home for industry placements and work on projects for the local community.

- *Economic (Financial)*

Council has made provision within its budget to cover the costs associated with this program.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

- *Director's Review*

With engineering staff being difficult to recruit, involvement in this program provides council with access to students and hopefully graduates in the future.

The award recognises the effort and commitment by Karen McKenzie and Jeff Moore during the period of industry placement with council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES